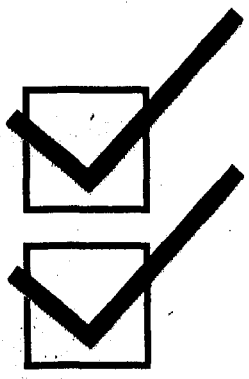
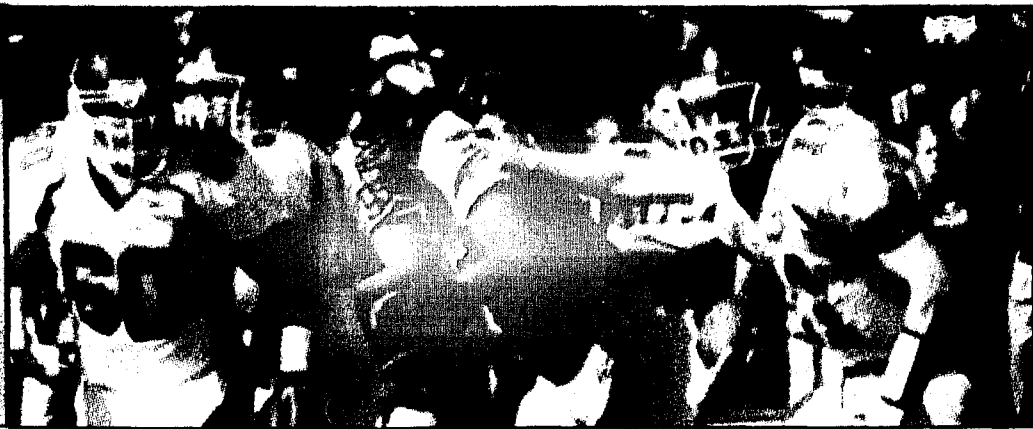


## Voting guide

Get prepped for the polls with our mock local ballot, A6



Bearcat football team gets ready for its last regular season home game, B1



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## UNIVERSITY NEWS

# Hangin' up

Today's cell phone society leaves Northwest little choice but to call it quits on residents' landline service

By Chris Lee  
Community News Editor

## What's going on?

In order to save the University money, all phone services within the residence halls will be discontinued. University officials have made contact with residents in the halls asking them to indicate if they would like to have their service shut off. If need be, students can keep their landline now but starting in fall 2009 will have to pay for service. Beginning this process now is the best way for the University to start saving money, according to Residential Life.

## Why?

Students don't use the landline service as much anymore because of cell phones, said Rose Viau, Director of Residential Life.

"Surveys have shown us that students don't use them (phones)," Viau said. "It's a very low number of students that actually use their landline phone."

Viau said the University spends about \$495,000 on its phone service a year. That figure includes all of the phones on campus, residence halls and University office phones. She estimates the amount spent in the residence halls is somewhere between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

## Thoughts

Junior Laura Palermo said she rarely uses her phone in her room in Roberta Hall.

"I only use it when I order pizza," Palermo said. "I use my cell phone for everything else. The pizza guys don't even ask for my room phone number anymore."

Palermo said her S.A. went to each room in Roberta Hall and asked them to discontinue their phone use.

## By the Numbers

Annual campus phone bill

**\$495,000**

Residence halls' annual phone bill

**\$ 250,000 - \$300,000**

// If we remove that service that the students aren't using, what could we give them with that money? That was really the driving factor. //

Rose Viau, Director of Residential Life



PERRIN HALL RESIDENT Kyle Schoenhals, like all on-campus residents, will have to decide whether he wants to get rid of the landline phone service in his room or keep it and pay for it starting next fall.

photo by Seth Cook  
chief photographer

## RE-ACCREDITATION

# Evaluation process continues

By Whitney Keyes  
Managing Editor

As part of a seven-year cycle, tomorrow Northwest will mail off 10 copies of a systems portfolio that will help determine the University's accreditation status.

This step involves a self-study that analyzes in-depth the University as an institute of higher education. The portfolio asks participants to answer questions in nine different categories: Helping students learn, accomplishing other distinctive objectives, understanding students' needs, valuing people, leading, communicating, supporting institutional operations, measuring effectiveness, planning continuous improvement and building collaborative relationships. For each category, applicants are asked questions revolving around sub-categories of context, process, results and improvement.

Once the application is turned in, it is reviewed by board members at the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. Following

their review, Northwest will do a self-evaluation of the document. The next step is a site visit that will happen next school year, said assistant to the president, Paul Klute.

If Northwest is not re-accredited, it will lose all federal funding. This does not necessarily mean the University would shut down, but the loss of federal funding would severely hinder operations at Northwest.

"We're in very good shape," associate provost Doug Dunham said. "We are in no danger."

Northwest follows the AQIP accreditation cycle, which Dunham and Klute describe as a continuous management and improvement system. The other accreditation plan, which Northwest previously followed in the '90s, PEAQ, is a 10-year cycle.

"PEAQ is a self-study, 'here's what we've done.' It's more of a 'gotcha' system," Dunham said. "AQIP looks at the past and the future, if you deserve re-accreditation."

Each AQIP application can

See AQIP on A5

## POWWOW

# Drums resound in Bearcat Arena

By Shane Sherwood  
Senior Reporter

Bells chimed as a rainbow of colors banded together to form a unified traditional culture.

The Fifth Annual Northwest Powwow took place on Oct. 25 in the Bearcat Arena inside the Lamkin Activities Center.

Northwest student Alena Schmitt had not attended the Powwow in the past.

"It's amazing how much time and effort they put into their performances and their dress," Schmitt said.

The entry began at 1:15 p.m., formally beginning the Powwow. The jingle of bells with the colors of the rainbow brought together an eruption of American Indian culture as it carried throughout the arena.

The dance was spiritual, Schmitt said. She admired how most of the dancers danced in unison.

"It's so amazing how they just know when the song is going to end by the way the drums beat," Schmitt said.

The Powwow continued with the Flag Song, capped with all four flags held in at equal heights by the Haskell Color Guard. Schmitt noticed the respect of the American flag as it was



photo by Chris Lee | community news editor

DANCERS COMPETE in the two-step dance during the fifth annual Powwow held in Bearcat Arena.

held side by side with the American Indian flag.

"It is just so honorable how much respect they hold for the Americans after what we have done to them," Schmitt said.

Intertribal dancing continued next

See POWWOW on A5

## MOSAIC

# Conference gets good reviews

By Shane Sherwood  
Senior Reporter

The MOSAIC conferences can be summed up as an awareness of internationalism.

The third annual Midwest Organization of Students Advancing Interculturalism (MOSAIC) began Oct. 23 and ended Oct. 25 with an '80s dance party.

Minority Affairs Director Ame Lambert said the MOSAIC conference is getting better each year.

"The students keep stepping up each year," Lambert said. "All the little pieces we forgot, the students stepped in and filled in those slots. I am really proud of them."

Five outside schools attended MOSAIC this year, including Coe College, Cornell College, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Missouri Western State University and Southwest Baptist University.

About 300 people attended the event.

Student Aaron Quintanilla, who was also the co-chair of logistics, said attendance was up 100 people compared to the first MOSAIC conference.

The conferences on Saturday morning, were

better received than in the past, Lambert said.

"I have heard nothing but great things about the morning workshops," Lambert said. "I have heard good reviews from all of them."

Associate Professor and Marketing and Management Department Chair Chi Lo Lim presented one of the morning workshops.

Her presentation was titled, "China - A Force to be Reckoned With," and discussed China and the comparisons to the United States economic progress and awareness.

The event is for anyone who would like to further educate themselves on internationalism, Lim said.

"MOSAIC is not just for students or faculty and staff at Northwest," Lim said. "It is also for the community. It offers them insight into what cultures and subcultures are like."

The conference forgets about economic standpoints, but focuses on the social side of internationalism.

This helps students grow closer to each other, she said.

See MOSAIC on A5



photo by Chris Lee | community news editor

MOSAIC CONTESTANT AMANDA Dye performs during the second round of competition on Saturday in the Performing Arts Center.

## ELECTION 2008

# Candidates address concern over vehicles

By Chris Lee  
Community News Editor

Vehicles used by the Nodaway County Sheriff's department stole the spotlight during a candidates' forum last week in Maryville.

County residents posed questions to the sheriff candidates regarding department funding. There has been talk about the vehicles used within the department and the fuel efficiency of those vehicles.

"I don't disagree that there is a need for one or two four-wheel drive vehicles in the sheriff's department, the fact still remains that the majority of calls that people respond to are on some sort of improved road," Darren White, Nodaway County Sheriff candidate said. "They might not always be in the best of condition, but for years, cars have served law enforcement agencies very well."

Candidate Ben Espey followed up by speaking about the vehicles

he uses and also addressed the need for another deputy.

"I've got three half-ton pickups and two Explorers," Espey said. "My pickups get 16 miles to the gallon. A very small percentage of our roads in Nodaway County are paved. I have to be able to get to every call that I get."

Espey said the patrol cars get 17 to 18 miles per gallon. He went on to speak about the trade in value, comparing the patrol cars to the pickups.

"We are trading in our pickups for \$14,000 to \$16,000," Espey said. "When we get done with a car after four or five years, we are getting two thousand dollars, maybe three."

Espey said he has had \$20,000 to \$40,000 left over in his budget every year he has held the position. He also said the fees from the county jail inmates could go toward funding a new deputy.

"Maryville (Public Safety) has

See CANDIDATES on A5



STUDY ABROAD

## Time abroad at Australia's Gold Coast leaves Northwest senior 'bitten by the travel bug'

By Stacie Zika  
Missourian Reporter

She was in a foreign country without a cell phone, 15 hours away from home, friends, family and everything familiar. Also, she was enrolled in college courses.

At first senior Megan Marquart, a psychology major, thought she would never be in that situation. That is, until she made the decision to study abroad, she said.

That decision was much to the surprise of her parents Addison and Mary Rose Marquart. They were amazed at first just because she took the initiative to do this all on her own, Mary Rose said.

"I am not always the most outgoing and so they didn't actually think I was going to do it, so they were a little surprised when I did," Megan said.

Megan studied at Bond University the fall

of her junior year. Bond is a private university on the Gold Coast. She got to learn in the classroom by taking psychology classes, but also outside the classroom by traveling and meeting new people.

"Studying abroad in Australia was amazing. I really had best semester of college, so far, over there," Megan said.

While in Australia Megan traveled to many places such as Sydney, where she climbed the Sydney Bridge. She also traveled to Melbourne and drove along the Great Ocean Road. Megan got to experience the Great Barrier Reef, and spent 10 days in New Zealand.

Although Megan had a great experience in Australia, leaving home was the most difficult part. Her family is close and it was hard being so far away from them, especially over Thanksgiving, Megan said. The Marquart family kept in touch weekly using

Web cameras.

"There were lots of tears when she first departed. That was definitely the hardest part but being able to actually see her on the webcam made it easier," Mary Rose said.

Although Megan missed her family she also missed certain foods such as peanut butter and chocolate. In the spirit of really experiencing Australia, Megan tried vegemite. She thought it was "really pretty awful."

Besides the 15-hour time difference, the culture shock was not as bad as Megan expected. In fact it was harder adjusting to coming home than adjusting to Australia, she said.

Studying abroad can change a student and their perspective on things. Both Megan and her parents agree that studying abroad did just that. Studying in Australia gave Megan a great feeling of accomplishment and independence.

"We could see changes, that she had become more independent. Independent in the way of her being able to do just about everything on her own and was much more grown up," Mary Rose said.

Students might have some hesitations about studying abroad such as money issues, or nervousness but it is an opportunity of a lifetime, Megan said.

"It is kind of just a step away from the world. Everything is going to be ok as long as you are willing to adjust to what your surroundings are," Megan said.

Students may discover they are capable of more than they expected. Studying abroad encourages students to learn more about who they are. For Megan it made her break out of her shell, she said.

"I think that Megan surprised herself on her journey and she surprised us. It was just such a positive experience," Mary Rose

said. Studying abroad caused Megan to "be bitten by the travel bug." One day she would like to travel and bring her family back to Australia.

"Traveling is just such a great experience because you learn so much about different cultures. Sometimes I think people kind of have a jaded view of what everyone else in the world is like," Megan said.

Both Megan and her mom said that studying abroad was such a great experience and they recommend that all students at least consider it.

"Studying abroad was an awesome experience and if you can afford it or even get a loan it is so worth going. And even just traveling too not just studying abroad, taking a summer or a month even to just go traveling just anywhere is just a great experience," Megan said.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

## GOOD GRIEF: Students turn to friends, campus and Facebook for support in time of mourning

By Evan Young  
Editor in Chief

When you offer a smile, hug and perhaps a shot of choice liquor to cheer up someone you may not even know, you tend to make a lot of friends.

Joe Dirksen did. In fact, his pals believe it was part of his philosophy. "If you were Joe's friend, he was your friend, but even if you weren't his friend, he was still your friend," they say.

Joe's outgoing personality helped the Northwest senior meet a variety of people - in a variety of places. Senior Melanie Bucy got to know him making late-night Domino's pizza deliveries to his residence hall. Junior Abbie Baker met Joe where many did: at Molly's Party Club arguably his favorite Maryville hot spot.

A positive person, it was hard to find Joe having a bad day - which made it even harder for those who knew, loved and admired him to say such a sudden goodbye.

On the morning of Oct. 21, Joe's roommate discovered the 24-year-old unresponsive in their South Complex room. He was later pronounced dead, preliminary tests blaming it on a heart attack caused by a possible hereditary condition.

"I was in instant shock and disbelief. It was like a punch to the stomach," Baker said of hearing the news, delivered to her in a text message while she was on her lunch break from Wal-Mart.

"I couldn't breathe," said junior Rachel Burnett, who met Joe through other college friends. "I thought I was going to be sick to my stomach."

As the afternoon wore on, the reality of Joe's death began to reach across campus.

"It felt like a dream. I wanted to give him a hug but knew he wasn't there," Burnett said. "When we started telling other friends ... to hear it come out of your mouth felt like you were telling a horrible lie."

**Finding comfort**  
Later that evening, Northwest counselors and Student Affairs staff offered a support session in South Complex for students and others who had questions, needed answers and/or simply wanted to talk. About 30 students gathered to share their favorite memories of Joe; tears and laughter mixed accordingly.

The session, like most held after such tragedies, was structured on the idea that every student grieves differ-

ently. Vice President of Student Affairs Jackie Elliott said.

"Don't be prescriptive," she said of her department's view on helping students cope. "It's important to listen but not prescribe. No two students grieve the same way."

University support for students in mourning continues on an individual basis, too, Elliott said. Often, students find one-on-one visits with a Wellness Center counselor more helpful.

Sudden deaths like Joe's can take a greater toll on students than those that are more imminent due to illness or other factors, Northwest counselor Rhonda Lesley said.

"There isn't time to absorb and process the feelings and thoughts surrounding that person," Lesley said. "There's no time to get support. It's a very different situation, so that's the

challenge."

Typical individual counseling sessions are one-sided, she said.

"A lot of it is just allowing the student to talk, to process thoughts, emotions and memories ... and to help normalize that, given the circumstances," Lesley said. "Sometimes we just sit with them and let them grieve."

**Moving on**  
Not long after hearing the news, Baker, Burnett and Bucy joined other friends of Joe's to form an impromptu support group of their own.

"This was more about really reaching out to each other. We each have a common bond," Baker said.

Then, over the weekend, they took a road trip to his hometown of Danbury, Iowa for his wake and funeral, where getting the chance to exchange stories and memories with family members

was also therapeutic.

Joe's family hopes to establish a scholarship fund in his name, Baker said. And his parents, now aware that Molly's is a local dub - not Joe's girlfriend, as they originally thought - hope to pay their son's old stomping ground a visit, possibly on his 25th birthday, Saturday, Dec. 20.

Baker created a Facebook group, "R.I.P. Joe Dirt," which now boasts more than 250 members. Like most Northwest students, Joe could be found on Facebook frequently, and the group serves as both a source of support and communication.

"It helps with the grieving process," Burnett said. "If one group has 255 members, that means there are 255 people feeling the same thing I am. You don't realize you have so many mutual friends."

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North District Commissioner  
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**Reliable:** Serves on numerous county and regional boards, committees and civic organizations.

**Communications:** A person learns more by participating in community events and listening rather than talking.

"I have worked hard for Nodaway County and ask for your vote to allow me to serve you again."

**Bob Westfall**

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**NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN**

BRIEFS

### Freedom of Road Riders

Freedom of Road Riders, Inc. Local 26 of Maryville is planning its annual Toys for Tots motorcycle run for this Sunday.

The entry fee is one unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots campaign, and a non-perishable food for the Nodaway County Food Pantry. A \$20 donation will be accepted in place of the toys and food. The event will start at 12:30 p.m. on the west side of the Courthouse Square in Maryville.

A lunch is planned at Carson's Bar and Grill. If weather permits, a ride is planned to begin around 2:30 p.m.

For more information call Kathy Rice at 582-3681.

### Trick or Treat Night

The 13th annual Trick or Treat Night is scheduled for tonight.

Forty-five downtown businesses will hand out candy and other treats to costumed children from 5 to 7 p.m.

Maryville Public Safety D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officer Rick Small and Maryville High School D.A.R.E. role models will be on the north side of the Courthouse Square handing out glow sticks to trick-or-treaters.

Event flyers with a map may be picked up at the participating businesses. Over 1,000 children participated in last year's event and even more are expected this year. Kathy Rice, event coordinator said.

For more information, call 582-3681.

### Absentee Voting

Absentee voters needed to vote early may do so on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the courthouse.

Proper identification such as a voter registration card, driver's license or a utility bill must be presented. Anyone needing curbside assistance because of illness or disability may also request an absentee ballot and vote from their vehicle.

For questions, call County Clerk Beth Walker at 582-2251.

ELECTION 2008

## Absentee ballots offer additional help voting

By Kiley Swopes  
Missourian Reporter

With Nov. 4 approaching fast many citizens may realize they double booked their schedules and do not have time to make it to the polls; however, there is an alternative way to vote if this is a problem.

Absentee ballot voting is an early voting process that allows citizens who will be gone or who are ill and cannot make it the day of election to vote before the polls open, County Clerk Beth Walker said.

The 2004 election had 655 Nodaway County residents vote absentee which is close to the number of people who have voted absentee already this election, Walker said.

As a registered voter in Nodaway County, voters can go to the County Clerk's Office before Nov. 4 to vote early Walker said.

Even on Nov. 4, a source of identification is needed in order to vote such as a driver's license, voter's card, a utility bill, Walker said.

Not being able to drive back to Iowa on Nov. 4, sophomore

Michelle Evins chose to absentee ballot vote through the mail.

"The process was not very difficult and everything was through the mail," Evins said. "They paid for everything except the stamp for me to send in the request for a ballot, but they paid for the ballot envelope stamp."

This process is completed by mailing in a ballot request form and then mailing the actual ballot after you receive it and fill it out, Walker said.

Some students did not register in Nodaway County for their own personal reasons.

"I could not make it on the forth to vote," sophomore Shelby Eagan said. "I voted absentee because the things that happen in my hometown will affect me for a longer time than they will in Maryville."

Many students have not experienced an election while away at school.

"With a mass push to register it affects where students will vote," Walker said. "If you do not know where to vote see me soon at the County Clerk Office otherwise you may not be eligible to vote."

ELECTION 2008

## Current coroner stresses strong working relations

By Chris Lee  
Community News Editor

Republican candidate for Nodaway County Coroner Vincent Shelby said an established working relationship with law enforcement personnel will play a big role in his candidacy.

Born in Bethany Mo., Shelby graduated from high school and then went on to the University of Missouri at Columbia where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in general biology. After college he went on to earn his doctorate of Chiropractic Degree from Logan College of Chiropractic in 1991.

Shelby has been married to Linda Shelby for 22 years and they have a 12-year-old son. He took over as the county coroner in 2004 and feels he has the experience to continue doing the job.

"I have a well-established working relationship with local law enforcement, ambulance personnel and medical examiner's offices," Shelby said.

The number one job of the coroner is to work with local law enforcement, ambulance personnel and local doctors to investigate to the best of his or her ability to determine the cause of death of an individual. Following that, determination to properly excise and issue a death certificate is another part of the job, Shelby said.

Shelby is a member of Nodaway County Fair Board, Masonic Lodge, past Lions Club member and serves as a deacon for Community of Faith Church.

"I have four years of experience doing the job and comforting families in a kind, caring and compassionate manner," Shelby said.

Shelby has 96 hours of death investigation training he said.

"It has been a privilege and my honor to serve for the last four years as coroner," Shelby said.



THE HORACE MANN students held a mock presidential debate in the Northwest Union this week where the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates gave their speeches. Very important issues were discussed, ranging from half-day Fridays, second helpings for lunch and a safer playground. Students will vote for their favorite classmate candidate on Nov. 4.

**What's your I.Q.?**

No. Not your intelligence quotient, but your Influenza Quotient! Because like it or not, it's here every year from late October to February is "flu season". The flu, short for influenza, is a viral illness that is characterized by sudden onset of fever over 101°F, headache and body ache, fatigue, cough and runny nose & sore throat. The fever and body aches often last 3-5 days, but the fatigue and last up to 2-3 weeks. If you are like me, that sounds like something you would like to avoid, right? Here's a quiz to test yourself on your ability to avoid getting the flu this season:

1. What's the most important thing you can do to avoid getting influenza?
2. Can you get influenza from the flu shot?
3. How is influenza spread?
4. Antibacterial soap is the preferred agent to use to wash your hands to prevent the spread of the virus!
5. The most effective way to prevent the spread of influenza is by coughing into your hand!
6. How does the flu virus enter one's body?
7. Nausea and vomiting are a common symptom of the flu!

Okay-Bearcats, what's your flu I.Q.? Here are the answers:

1. The most important thing you can do to avoid getting influenza is to get the flu shot before flu season starts. It generally takes 2-4 weeks to build up your immunity. Although it is not 100% protective, it greatly reduces your risk of getting the flu or minimizing it's symptoms if you do get it.
2. No. As the flu shot is made from a killed virus, you cannot get influenza from the flu shot. It is possible to have a reaction (sore arm, low grade fever, or even an allergic reaction) you should not get it if you are allergic to eggs due to components in the vaccine.
3. Influenza is spread by droplets, sneezing or coughing, or in secretions from the nose or mouth from an infected individual. A good rule is to stay at least 3 feet away from someone who is coughing or sneezing, and do not touch what they have touched. (Door handles & shopping carts are often implicated as a source of spread.)
4. No. regular non-antibacterial soap is preferred and one should wash their hands thoroughly-between fingers, scrubbing vigorously for 20 seconds (the time it takes to sing the "ABC song"). Alcohol based gel is okay and is more portable. Anti-bacterial soap is often damaging to the skin and may be contributing to bacterial resistance problems. Do not use if you are allergic to eggs due to components in the vaccine.
5. False. One should cough into the elbow or sleeve as coughing into one's hands (or a tissue that your hands then have to dispose of) is likely to spread the virus-unless you wash your hands immediately.
6. All viruses enter one's body through the mouth, nose, or eyes-so keep your hands away from your face to keep from getting the flu, as well as colds and other infections.
7. False. Nausea and vomiting are not associated with true influenza. Sometimes people refer to gastroenteritis (nausea, vomiting and diarrhea) as the flu or stomach flu but this is not influenza and is caused by completely different viruses.

So now that you know your I.Q., the real test of intelligence is what are you going to do with that knowledge? My advice... APPLY IT!

**Kathy Darnell, FNP**  
**UNIVERSITY WELLNESS CENTER**  
**660.562.1220**

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**AN ELECTION DAY MESSAGE FOR NWMSU STUDENTS**

**"And it is permitted to be said such things as, 'Well, you know that Mr. Obama is a Muslim.' Well, the correct answer is...he's always been a Christian. But the really right answer is, what if he is? Is there something wrong with being a Muslim in this country? The answer's no, that's not America. Is there something wrong with some seven-year old Muslim-American kid believing that he or she could be president?"**

**I feel strongly about this particular point because of a picture...of a mother in Arlington Cemetery, and she had her head on the headstone of her son's grave... You could see the writing on the headstone. And it gave his awards--Purple Heart, Bronze Star--showed that he died in Iraq, gave his date of birth, date of death. He was 20 years old. And then, at the very top of his headstone, it didn't have a Christian cross, it didn't have the Star of David, it had a crescent and a star of the Islamic faith. And his name was Kareem Rashed Sultan Khan, and he was an American."**

**—Former Secretary of State Gen. Colin Powell (Ret.) on the injection of anti-Muslim bias into the presidential campaign. "Meet the Press" October 19, 2008**

**Obama "a transformational figure"**

Forty years ago, like many NWMSU students today, I was casting my first vote in a presidential election. Watching the first debate, I reflected on our nation's progress. Old Miss was proud to host Barack Obama, who the year he was born would have been denied admission to that school solely because of his racial heritage.

At the Candidates' Forum on campus last Thursday, I shared part of the remarks made by former secretary of state Colin Powell when he endorsed Barack Obama (reprinted at left). All Americans should find the use of religious faith to sow political discord troubling.

General Powell endorsed Obama because, in words from USA Today, he believes the next president "should be someone who has the ability to inspire and reach out to all Americans and who has the rhetorical ability and the substance to lead the nation and the world during troubled times." Powell is but one of a growing number of Republicans who plan to vote for Obama.

As The Economist explained in its current issue, "for many conservatives, Mr. Obama embodies qualities that their party has abandoned: pragmatism, competence and respect for the head rather than the heart.... Much of Mr. Obama's rhetoric is strikingly conservative, even Reaganesque. He preaches the virtues of personal responsibility and family values, and practices them too. He talks in uplifting terms about the promise of American life."

**Why the North District Race Matters**

Like all who aspire to public office, I seek to improve our community. My short term goals for that office are to improve the working relationship between the commission and north district township board members; to encourage the other commissioners to participate in the Leadership Northwest program, which seeks to unite citizens in common goals; implement a consolidated 911 system, and develop permanent funding for the local humane society that provides county animal control services.

My long term goals are to seek greater funding for our county gravel roads and the state-maintained backdrops; promote county and regional economic development, and the creation of more affordable, quality housing, and encourage a regional approach to solving problems common to all Northwest Missouri Counties.

From my training in business administration and the law I bring to local government knowledge and skills no present commissioner has. And like the other two commissioners I bring management experience from business and my farming operation. It is this background and experience, together with my longstanding ties to the North District, that would make me an effective advocate for its citizens.

**To Meet the Challenges of the Next Four Years**

**ELECT ROBERT RITTERBUSCH**  
**NORTH DISTRICT COMMISSIONER**

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OUR VIEW

# Like it or not, someone will lose election

OK, everybody just calm down. Sit down. Take a few breaths out of a paper bag. Relax. That's better. Now, let's try and discuss this calmly and rationally.

To you, this no doubt sounds like crazy talk, but listen up: the world is not going to end if your candidate is defeated Nov. 4. Shocking, isn't it? OK, maybe not, but then why are people running around, acting like the world is going to end? This is directed at everybody, Democrats and Republicans alike.

It just goes to show what some people will stoop to when the pressure is on. One candidate has shown these tendencies more than the other, but no one candidate is being blamed here.

Mostly, the panic has crept down to supporters, leading to clashes. "If my candidate doesn't win," they think, "I'm moving to Canada." Or, "if my candidate doesn't win, I won't have to think or do anything, because the world will be blown up by terrorists."

And don't anybody dare point out that, before the election started, some Democrats maybe kind of liked McCain. Or that Obama was alright before he became a serious contender.

McCain's not all bad. Remember the straight-talk express? Remember how he reached across the aisle? Remember the McCain-Feingold Act, which reformed campaign finance? Sure, he had to straighten up a little when he became a presidential candidate, but it's a tough gig. Cut him some slack.

And if you seriously think Obama is dangerous for America because he's a Muslim or an Arab, you're just plain wrong. The fact that anybody even has to point out the obvious, that Obama is a Christian, should scare us far more than the fact that people are actually that afraid of Muslims and Arabs.

Palin may not be your cup of tea, but gosh darn it, she's just trying to be the best vice presidential candidate she can, golly gee! Apparently the Valentino couture isn't going to cut it with Joe the Plumber, don'tcha know?

And Biden, well nobody really cares about Biden, do they? You should pay more attention to him, he's a good guy. But apparently if you're not black, female or a former prisoner-of-war, you really aren't worthy of interest.

For the unprecedented show of interest in politics, we heartily applaud all the supporters of both candidates. Remember, though, that you have to live with each other when this is all over. Some of you will have to live with disappointment.

For the future of the country, don't drink the Kool-Aid. In the end, we are not Democrats or Republicans. We are not red or blue states. We are Americans, living in the United States of America. United-not petty, bickering fatalists pouting because we didn't get our way. We are Americans, and we should celebrate and respect democracy.

Especially when we hate the results.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I was appalled when I read the article The Stroller wrote this week in the paper. Being a member of the Bearcat Marching Band, I felt personally attacked by his remarks.

His remarks were rude and unwarranted. It was unfair to attack the BMB as a whole saying we, "have spent our entire lives on the sidelines of sporting events, but that doesn't mean you know anything, about sports," or that when we trip on the field it is "hilarious." He even collectively calls the BMB a d-bag.

I can tell you right now that our heckling is far more G rated and tame than anything any other fan in the stadium yells. Also, there are several members of the band that have participated in varsity athletics and even more of us follow sports like it is a religion. So don't insult us by saying, "oh they are just in the band, they

Angry Bearcat Marching Band member



MY VIEW

## Prime minister should get important ministries

Zimbabwe's power-sharing agreement, in response to the previous election scandal, between President Mugabe and newly-designated Prime Minister Tsvangirai is being threatened with complete dissolution, as neither party can decide on who gets what cabinet ministries.

Before I go any further, let me explain two things: the government and electoral process in Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe's current system's executive is comparable to the United States' presidential system; the president fulfills both roles of head of state and head of government and also appoints the Cabinet. But the legislative branch should be compared to most parliamentary systems (UK for example). The legislative body of Zimbabwe is a bicameral parliament, meaning the power is split between the Senate and the House of Assembly.

However, with the new power-sharing agreement, Zimbabwe's government would be even more mixed between a presidential and parliamentary system - a new system of government that is beginning to increase in popularity, the Hybrid.

There would still be a strong president popularly elected with substantial power designated to by the constitution (Mugabe), but there would also be a prime minister (Tsvangirai) who would conduct Parliament's government business.

But why the new power-sharing agreement?

During the last presidential election, there was huge controversy from international political actors over the legitimacy of the outcome. Zimbabwe's electoral process is a two-tiered system. If no candidate wins the majority during the first round, then the top two candidates continue on to a second round.

During the last election, Mugabe and Tsvangirai, among others, ran for president. Tsvangirai won a larger percent of votes than the other candidates, but could not

produce the majority. Tsvangirai and Mugabe, the top two candidates, continued on to the second round. However, due to political pressure, Tsvangirai was forced out of the race, leaving the presidency to Mugabe.

Due to international pressure, a deal was brokered between Mugabe and Tsvangirai, in which the executive would be split between a president and a prime minister. However, this deal hangs by one deciding factor: who gets what cabinet ministries.

This dilemma happens with many parliamentary elections when no party can win a clear majority and coalitions must happen. However, when something like this occurs, normally the leading party will take the most important ministries. The prime minister, for example, would be a member from the party that had the larger number of votes. This situation is much different, though.



Kathleen Wilmes  
Contributing Columnist

one that was one of the largest in Ford Motor Company was a daily task that I took on with extreme and due diligence. When I left the company the current inventory was valued at more than \$850 million and it was monitored daily. The accounting skills that were mentioned mirror those that I was responsible for and took great pride in performing. With more than 4,000 dealerships to service in North America, I know what it is like to monitor many different accounts and their activity.

As I've said over the course of this campaign, I firmly believe I have all the skills needed to perform in this office and for this county. I would never have chosen to run for the office if I didn't feel I could do it to the expectations the citizen's desire. I know someone can't walk in off the

street to do any job, but I believe with dedication and determination that I can use my knowledge and experience to learn every detail that one must have to succeed in this office. The best way to approach anything in life is to always strive to learn and expand your knowledge so that you can do it to the best of your ability.

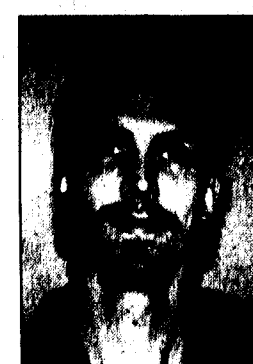
We will have tough choices to make on Nov. 4, and I would just like you to know that when you see the words "experience" and "knowledge," you can be confident that they apply to this candidate as well.

Thank you again for all your time and continued support.

Mike Striplin  
Candidate, Nodaway County  
Collector/Treasurer

CAMPUS TALK

## How do you deal with grief?



"I play World of Warcraft with my girlfriend."

Seth Brummond  
Secondary Math  
Education



"I listen to music and sing at the top of my lungs."

Beth Wilson  
Sociology



"I try to learn songs on the guitar and hang out with my really good friends."

Christian Mudd  
Computer Science



"I call my family and close friends. It helps to have their support."

Sarah Youngbauer  
Accounting



"I just push it away."

Andrew Maddox  
Public Relations

## MOSAIC: 37 performances highlight event

Continued from A1

"At Northwest, we just don't celebrate differences, but similarities as well," she said. "We're not that different."

MOSAIC is another way to give back to the community, Lim said.

"It brings out the teamwork from many different international students," she said. "They come together and present something extraordinary and (it) gives them an opportunity to show their appreciation to the community."

The event included 37 performances this year in seven different categories. These categories are variety, studio dance, dance, instrumental, poetry, vocal and international dance.

In the poetry category, student Brent Rice placed first for the second year in a row, while the Indian Student Association placed first for the third time in the international dance category.

"Everyone had impeccable performances this year," Quintanilla said. "Everyone seemed to step it up."

One of the goals of MOSAIC is by getting many people involved. Quintanilla said.

"We accomplished our goal of getting a lot of different cultures together in the same place," Quintanilla said.

The BRIDGES, standing for Building Relationships and Integrating Diverse Grown Experiences, headed committees for the conference.

MOSAIC would not have been possible without the BRIDGES, Quintanilla.

The experience of working on MOSAIC is something Quintanilla will always remember. MOSAIC helps to break the boundaries between international organizations, he said.

"I feel that the groups are less isolated than in the past," Quintanilla said. "MOSAIC is a big part of that."

MOSAIC is a student conference where the professional staff facilitates certain things, Quintanilla said. The conference is all about the students.

"Students choose the theme. Students compete and contact other schools," Quintanilla said. "Students decide if we want to do it again. The event is very student oriented."

Interculturalism is something that cannot be protected from Maryville, Lim said.

"The first company you see when you enter the town is not an American company," Lim said. "Internationalism is here to stay."

Promoting the event to other schools and promoting internationalism to the students and faculty and staff of those schools would help make MOSAIC even more of a success, Lim said.

"You should not react to what other countries are doing, but be proactive for what is to come," Lim said. "Everything we touch has an international flavor if not a portion."

## POWWOW: Scholarship given

Continued from A1

for a few minutes, and then the Tiny Tots' Exhibition began.

"They have so much energy and pride for their culture," Schmitt said.

Then the announcer Willie Ogden invited people from the stands to join their favorite dancer during the Blanket Dance. Schmitt participated, joining the American Indian dancers on the arena floor.

Thunder Shield, Northern Drum, Young Omahas and Southern Drum were the host drums of the evening.

The event planning began last fall, with heavy planning beginning last September, Powwow Council sponsor and Northwest Associate Professor Barbara Crossland said.

"Planning for the event takes a lot of people cooperating for a lot of hours," Crossland said.

Planning for next year's Powwow will begin sometime soon with a debriefing of this year's event.

Students Kaley Johnson and Mallory Stanton were the recipients of the Native American Scholarship.

The award is given to two registered American Indian students who have at least a 2.5 grade point average and are full-time students.

The scholarship originated three years ago when University alumni saw the Powwow posters and decided to create the scholarship. The Powwow council is hoping to award the scholarship to three people, Crossland said.

This year also brought the most American Indian dancers than in the past. About 90 dancers registered this year, Crossland said. About 1,500 people attended the event.

The event is important for many different reasons, Crossland said.

"The Pow Wow is a celebration of Native American Culture," Crossland said. "We are in the middle of the country and are surrounded by many Native Americans. It's important that we share our culture."

Student Sarah McGraw is part Delaware and Cherokee. Her favorite part of the Powwow was the female dancers.

"Flash dancing is a good way to show the Native American legends," McGraw said.

The Powwow is important to keep the Native American culture around, McGraw said.

"It inspired me to try to keep cultures alive and to look at the past before they are no longer there," McGraw said. "More people should go and see the cultures of Native Americans before they disappear."

## CANDIDATES: Hopefuls support 911 merger

Continued from A1

20 officers for five square miles," Espey said. "I have nine officers for 875 square miles. I need another officer."

Consolidation of the 911 system was the next issue presented to the candidates.

Both candidates are for the merger. They stressed it takes the agreement of all four agencies, Maryville Public Safety, Nodaway County Sheriff's Department, Nodaway County Ambulance and Campus Safety to make it work.

"I'm 100 percent for it," Espey said.

White was also on board for the merger.

"I think it's long overdue," White said. "It needs to happen right now."

Another question raised was about drug problems in Nodaway County.

"As I have said before, it's a huge problem," White said. "Anybody that says it's not a huge problem has got their head stuck in the sand. It's not just here, it's nationwide."

White said presence of law enforcement will help the problem within the county.

Espey said he looked at the research and Missouri was No. 1 in the United States when it comes to methamphetamine usage.

"We (Nodaway County) aren't any worse than anyone else (other Missouri counties)," Espey said. "The stats are down. Legislature passed a bill to watch over the Sudafed tablets that are sold. Since they put that in, methamphetamine production has gone down 90 percent."

White cited the importance of being responsible to the people of Nodaway County.

"My message is now, what it has been along, and that is the message of progress through change," White said. "My plan for the sheriff's department, as I said before, is quite simple. It's about being responsible to the people. We need to make sure that we are serving everybody in this county."

It doesn't matter if citizens live in Maryville, Burlington Junction or the rarely seen parts of the county, everyone deserves the same service, White said.

Republican candidate Espey followed with his comments on the race.

"I agree with everything that Dar-

ren has said," Espey said. "I want to commend Darren, our campaign up until now and every time we have been in front of the public has been nothing but courteous and polite."

Espey told the crowd he is only as good as his worst deputy. He wants people to know it isn't about him; it's about his department and the deputies who work for him.

"I've got a really good group of people that work for me," Espey said. "I love doing my job, there's nothing that I would rather do than be your sheriff."

Other candidates speaking were the county corner candidates Jeff Bram and Vincent Shelby, state representative candidates Rick Oswald and Mike Thompson.

Dave Browning, the Libertarian candidate for the U.S. congress sixth district also spoke. Others included north district commissioner candidates, Robert Ritterbusch and Bob Westfall and collector-treasurer candidates, Michael Striplin and Marilyn Jenkins.

Unopposed candidates speaking were Rex Wallace for county assessor and Diane Thomsen for Public Administrator.

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**ELECT MARILYN JENKINS**  
COLLECTOR-TREASURER  
The Experienced Candidate

Qualifications...

- Deputy Collector-Treasurer in the Nodaway County Collector-Treasurer's office under Mary Noel the past 18 months.
- Employed for 3 years in the Nodaway County Assessor's office - 2 years as Deputy Assessor, Jct., for 9 years.
- Associate Degree in Business Management.
- Graduate of Jefferson High School.
- Nodaway County native.

"My knowledge and experience in county government, from tax assessment through collection procedures, along with my insight into the complexity of county fund maintenance and investment, will enable me to continue to provide professional service in the Collector-Treasurer's office."

-Marilyn Jenkins

We have too many politicians in Jefferson City, and not enough Representatives.

Rick

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Candidate for Missouri State Representative

Representative first, Democrat second

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3. End Big Business Tax Credit Giveaways
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Rick

**OSWALD**

Democrat for State Representative

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# What to expect on Nov. 4

## For President and Vice President of the United States of America (Vote for One)

☐ John McCain/Sarah Palin-REP  
☐ Barack Obama/Joe Biden-DEM  
☐ Bob Barr/Wayne A. Root-LIB  
☐ Chuck Baldwin/Darrell Castle-CST  
☐ Ralph Nader/Matt Gonzalez-IND  
 (Write-In)

## For Governor (Vote for One)

☐ Kenny Hulshof-REP  
☐ Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon-DEM  
☐ Andrew W. Finkenshtadt-LIB  
☐ Gregory E. Thompson-CST  
 (Write-In)

## For Lieutenant Governor (Vote for One)

☐ Peter Kinder-REP  
☐ Sam Page-DEM  
☐ Teddy Fleck-LIB  
☐ James C. Rensing-CST  
 (Write-In)

## For Secretary of State (Vote for One)

☐ Mitchell (Mitch) Hubbard-REP  
☐ Robin Camahan-DEM  
☐ Wes Upchurch-LIB  
☐ Denise C. Neely-CST  
 (Write-In)

## For State Treasurer (Vote for One)

☐ Brad Lager-REP  
☐ Clint Zweifel-DEM  
☐ Rodney D. Farthing-CST  
 (Write-In)

## For Attorney General (Vote for One)

☐ Mike Gibbons-REP  
☐ Chris Koster-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For United States Representative in Congress 6th District (Vote for One)

☐ Sam Graves-REP  
☐ Kay Barnes-DEM  
☐ Dave Browning-LIB  
 (Write-In)

## For State Representative 4th District (Vote for One)

☐ Mike Thomson-REP  
☐ Rick Oswald-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Commissioner of the County Commission Southern District (Vote for One)

☐ Bob Stiens-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Commissioner of the County Commission Northern District (Vote for One)

☐ Bob Westfall-REP  
☐ Robert Ritterbusch-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Sheriff (Vote for One)

☐ Ben Espey-REP  
☐ Darren White-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Assessor (Vote for One)

☐ Rex L. Wallace-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Collector-Treasurer (Vote for One)

☐ Michael Striplin-REP  
☐ Marilyn K. Jenkins-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Public Administrator (Vote for One)

☐ Diane Thomsen-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Coroner (Vote for One)

☐ Vincent L. Shelby-REP  
☐ Jeff Bram-DEM  
 (Write-In)

## For Surveyor (Vote for One)

☐ Troy Hayes-REP  
 (Write-In)

## Constitutional Amendment 1

☐ Yes ☐ No

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to add a statement that English shall be the language of all governmental meetings at which any public business is discussed, decided, or public policy is formulated. This includes meetings conducted in person or by other means of communication including conference calls, video conference, Internet chat, or Internet message board.

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to add a statement that English shall be the language of all governmental meetings at which any public business is discussed, decided, or public policy is formulated.

This proposition will have no impact on taxes.

## Constitutional Amendment 4

☐ Yes ☐ No

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to change the provisions relating to the financing of storm water control projects. Currently, the Missouri Constitution allows the legislature to issue bonds or other types of debt so that grants and loans may be provided to municipalities and water and sewer districts in certain

counties and cities for storm water control.

This amendment will limit funding to only public water and sewer districts. It removes the current limitation on the amount of funds that can be made available for these projects and removes the restrictions on the method of disbursing these funds. It further provides that loan repayment funds shall be deposited into a specific fund to be used for storm water control projects.

A "no" vote will not change the provisions relating to the financing of storm water control projects.

If passed, this measure will not have an impact on taxes.

## Proposition A

☐ Yes ☐ No

A "yes" vote will amend Missouri law to: Repeal the current individual maximum loss limit for gambling;

Prohibit any future loss limits; Require identification to enter the gambling area only if necessary to establish that an individual is at least 21 years old;

Restrict the number of casinos to those already built or being built;

Increase the casino gambling tax from 20% to 21%;

Create a new specific education fund from gambling tax proceeds generated as a result of this measure called the "Schools First Elementary and Secondary Education Improvement Fund";

Require annual audits of this new fund.

A "no" vote will maintain the current individual maximum loss limit of five hundred dollars for each gambling excursion. The casino gambling tax will not be increased nor will the "Schools First Elementary Improvement Fund" be created. Also, the number of new casinos that may be built in Missouri will not be restricted.

If passed, this measure will increase the casino gambling tax.

## Proposition B

☐ Yes ☐ No

A "yes" vote will amend Missouri law to enable the elderly and Missourians with disabilities to continue living independently in their homes by creating the Missouri Quality Homecare Council. If formed, this Council will ensure the availability of quality home care services under the Medicaid program by recruiting, training, and stabilizing the home care workforce.

A "no" vote means the Missouri Quality Homecare Council will not be created.

This measure will have no impact on taxes.

## Proposition C

☐ Yes ☐ No

A "yes" vote will amend Missouri law to require investor-owned electric utilities to generate or purchase electricity from renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass (including ethanol) and hydropower. The required renewable energy sources must equal the following percentages of retail sales:

2% by 2011  
 5% by 2014  
 10% by 2018  
 15% by 2021.

Of the total renewable energy sources required to be sold, at least 2% shall be solar sources. Also, any rate increase to consumers resulting from this measure must be no more than 1%.

A "no" vote will not require Missouri's investor-owned electric utilities to generate or purchase electricity from renewable energy sources.

This measure will not have an impact on taxes.

# NWMISSOURIAN SPORTS

# ALL THE WRIGHT MOVES



photography by Jeff Cook | chief photographer  
KENDALL WRIGHT IS proud of the fact that he can change his personality to fit his surroundings. His versatility allowed him to make friends quickly at Northwest, he said.



## Kendall's NW records

**221**  
Receptions  
3rd all-time

**3,015**  
Receiving yards  
5th all-time

**19**  
Touchdown receptions  
4th all-time

## Senior wide receiver mixes fun-loving personality with a shy side

By Marcus Meade  
Sports Editor

His soft, childlike face displays a smirk that tells the world he knows something they don't. A silky walk and uncaring posture give his small frame a look of peace with the world, like an old man strolling through the park. It's as if he can notice the whole world around him and be completely oblivious to it at the same time.

But that isn't the whole Kendall Wright. It's tough to know the whole Kendall Wright.

"Yeah, he's interesting. That's putting it mildly," coach Mel Tjeerdema said. "I don't know if I've ever had anybody quite like him personality wise. He's unique."

To teammates, Wright is the outgoing showstopper. They see him as eccentric, goofy and funny, but they also seem unable to completely describe him.

How does he see himself? Adaptable. He's whatever he needs to be. That means at times he's quiet, at times loud.

Sometimes he's in the moment; sometimes he's outside of it.

"I think that's why people look at me the way they do; I'm not a stereotype," Wright said. "I like that about myself."

Wright's unique personality was harvested on a farm in Birch Creek, Texas, where he grew up doing chores and working with animals. Back then, he was a shy, quiet kid, an attribute he still shows at times, his brother and best friend Chris Wright said.

Kendall began high school in nearby Sulfur Springs, Texas and found success in sports like football, baseball and track. But during his junior year, he nearly gave it all up when his parents got divorced. In fact, he nearly gave up all together.

"I kind of had a new personality for three years," Kendall said. "I really didn't care how things went with my life. I was just going through the motions of life ... I'm really glad that person's gone."

Kendall's mother moved to Tyler, Texas, roughly 75 miles away from Birch Creek. As a result of the split, Kendall became increasingly isolated and nearly quit football until a coach

convinced him to keep going.

"I don't really know how he was trying to express himself," Chris said. "He would go back and forth between Mom and Dad. I could tell it hurt him."

With issues at home and questions looming about his family, Kendall decided to get away from Texas by way of Northwest. At that point, he felt ready to leave his family behind, he said.

"So, I thought if I came out here, they might want to see me more and be around me more," Wright said. "It worked out. They started trying to come to my games. The more I saw them, the better I felt about myself."

"It was hard sometimes to see if they loved me or not, but now, since I've been up here, I see that they do love me. If I didn't have them, I don't know what I would do."

Time at Northwest has also helped turn Kendall into the positive person he is today. With smiles to spare, he attempts to find the positive in all situations.

See WRIGHT on B2

## MHS VOLLEYBALL

## Girls get chance at district championship

By Jason Lawrence  
Missourian Reporter

The main goal of the Spoof-hound volleyball team was to be in the district championship game. They reached that goal with victories over North Platte and Lathrop.

"It has been a big momentum boost for us," coach Lori Klaus said. "The girls are really excited and we're really on top of our game. The girls are just excited to win on Tuesday."

The 'Hounds buried North Platte early in their first round district match-up Monday night in Lathrop.

The third seeded 'Hounds surrendered only four points to the Panthers in the first game en route to posting a 25-4 victory.

"The girls did really well," Klaus said. "We just controlled the ball well every time it was on our side."

The second game was slightly closer, but not close enough to

force a third match. Maryville took game two 25-10 and advanced their record to 20-4 on the season.

"North Platte really wasn't up to our level, but we didn't drop down to theirs either," Klaus said. "We dominated both games and it was exciting to watch."

Klaus said the team tries to simulate post-season intensity throughout the regular season.

"It's kind of an extra incentive," she said, "Because when you lose, you're done. We were really on top of our game tonight because we just didn't want to lose."

The 'Hounds faced district host Lathrop in the second round Tuesday night.

Klaus felt her team was in control throughout all of game one as they picked up a 25-13 victory. They didn't let up in game two and took the match with a 25-18 victory.

"It's been a great two games for us," Klaus said. "It's not like we just won. We played well and won."

The two victories advance the 'Hounds to the district champion-

ship where they will face Bishop LeBlond. That game will take place at 6:30 p.m. tonight at Lathrop High School.

The 'Hounds have lost to LeBlond both times they have played them this season, but Klaus said her team is playing better right now and believes LeBlond is beatable.

"We knew LeBlond was probably going to be our biggest competition," senior Randi Tobin said. "So if we matched up against them, it was going to be our toughest game."

Junior Leah Bostwick is expecting a tough game going into the championship, but thinks the last two district games have helped the team.

"It's made us a lot more confident going against LeBlond," she said. "We feel like, with these two games under our belts, we can take them on and maybe shake them up a little bit."

If the 'Hounds are able to come away with a victory over LeBlond, they will advance to sectionals in Lexington on Saturday.

## NW FOOTBALL

## Seniors get praise, shot at share of conference title

By Marcus Meade  
Sports Editor

This Saturday, 13 Northwest football players will gather with their families for what could be their last game at Bearcat Stadium.

"Every senior game is special to us," senior defensive end Tyler Northway said. "Everybody wants to play well for the seniors, and it's cool to be on the other end of that for once."

Of course, Saturday's Senior Day game against Emporia State probably won't be the last home game for Northwest and the seniors. Northwest is currently in a position to host at least one home game after a first round bye in the playoffs.

But nothing is certain. In order to make sure they get another chance to perform in front of a home crowd, the 'Cats must take care of business this week and next.

This week, Emporia stands between the 'Cats and at least a share of the conference title.

"The two things I mentioned (senior day and the conference title), if that's not enough motivation, I don't know what you could ask for," coach Mel Tjeerdema said. "We'll be ready to play that's for sure."

On paper, Northwest looks dominant compared to the Hornets. The 'Cats are the conference's top scorers with nearly 40 points per game while Emporia is next to last with 23.

The Hornets showed signs of life last when they came from behind to beat Truman and stop a four-game losing streak.



photo by christopher woodward | community sports editor  
SOPHOMORE FREE SAFETY Marcus Martin tackles Washburn running back Justin Cooper in the second quarter of Saturday's win. The Bearcat defense held Washburn to 88 yards rushing Saturday.

"They don't have the best athletes around, but you know they play hard," Nelson said. "They're going to fight and claw, try to get the ball out, get some turnovers and help their offense out."

Northwest seniors start their final regular season home game at 1 p.m. Saturday at Bearcat Stadium.

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## Wright: Player awes teammates with moves

Of course, it might be easy to be positive when having the type of success Kendall's had in his tenure with the Bearcats. On the track, he's competed on the national level as a long jumper. In football, he's racked up 221 catches, 3,015 yards receiving and 19 receiving touchdowns and multiple all-conference honors.

As electrifying as Kendall is on offense, it's his work as a punt and kick returner that really gets people's hearts beating.

"I love watching Kendall on the field," senior defensive end Tyler Northway said. "Coach (Richard) Wright, our special teams coordinator and defensive line coach, calls him The Matrix. Other people call him the human joystick. It's just fun to watch him do what he does."

Kendall's moves can sometimes get him in trouble, he said, but that's his style. For Kendall, it's fun to see if he can catch a team off guard. At times, his reckless nature ends up hurting him like in the West Texas A&M game last season.

"That's the hardest hit I've ever seen," junior safety Myles Burnsidies said of a hit Kendall took. "If he can get up from that, he can get up from anything."

But that's Kendall. That's the unpredictable nature of a man who can be whatever he wants.

This Saturday, the 'Cats will honor Kendall and the rest of the seniors during their last regular season home game. His family is making the trip to see his shy, goofy, spontaneous personality come out on the field.

"Kendall's philosophy, I think, is that every day's a holiday and every meal's a picnic," Tjeerdsma said. "That's kind of how I'd sum him up."

## VOLLEYBALL

### Rockhurst rolls team in 4 sets

By Brian Bosiljevac  
University Sports Editor

The Northwest volleyball got off to the strong start it had been looking for but couldn't contain the momentum to beat Rockhurst Tuesday night.

The Bearcats took a break from MIAA action but received no favors from Grand Lake Valley's Rockhurst as the 'Cats' record fell to 8-18.

Northwest won the first set of the night, which is something the 'Cats have only done six times this season. The set went back and forth until the score hit 20-20 and Northwest finished off the Hawks 25-23.

"I think we believed more in the first set," sophomore Sara Falcone said. "As the games went on we began to second guess ourselves. In the first game we weren't hesitating at all, we were just doing things."

Freshman Alex Hanna hit 342 on the night and led the Bearcats in kills and points with 18 and 19, respectively.

"I think she (Hanna) has done a great job offensively," head coach Anna Tool said. "She can hit a heavy ball and from her we are looking for a little more consistency. Blocking wise, I think she has even more inside of her and we'll keep trying to pull it out of her."

Northwest did its best job blocking in the third set. Four 'Cats put up multiple blocks in the third set. Sophomore Amber Ryan led the 'Cats' blocking attack with five for the match. Even with their best defensive set of the night, Northwest gave up six straight points to the Hawks and lost the set 25-18.

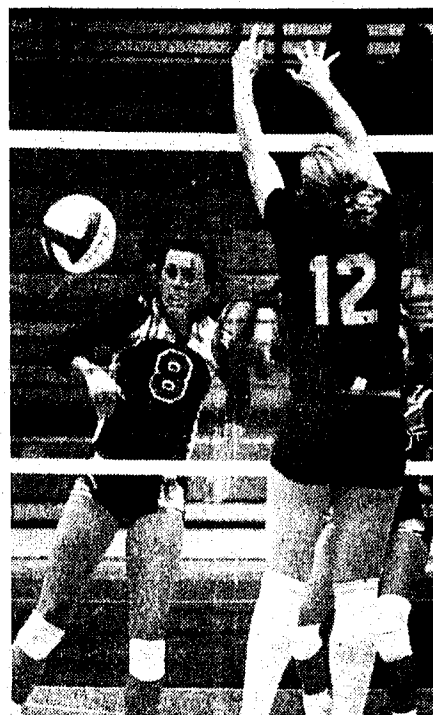
"We've been doing really good at blocking lately," Ryan said. "We had a lot of blocks at Emporia too. That is something we improved on a lot. I think overall stats came out the other day for conference and we've moved up in blocking a lot."

The fourth set featured the same back and forth style of play that was seen in set one and two. Again the 'Cats brought the game into reach with a 20-20 score but failed to capitalize and lost the deciding set 25-23.

In a night that brought the 'Cats a lot of highs and lows, consistency was clearly an issue. Consistency is something Tool has said her young team has struggled with all season.

"If I knew (how to make the team play consistently) we would be playing that way," Tool said. "I think it's maturity, it's establishing yourself and really knowing that you can determine the outcome of the game."

The 'Cats traveled to Missouri Southern on Wednesday trying to bounce back



SOPHOMORE MIDDLE HITTER Amber Ryan records a kill in Tuesday's 3-1 loss to Rockhurst. Ryan had 14 kills in the match.

and snap their current two match losing streak. Results for Wednesday's match were unavailable at press time.

The Bearcats then head home for their match-up at 7 p.m. Friday against No. 18 Pittsburg State, in Bearcat Arena.

## SCORE BY QUARTER

(6-3) 0 0 14 7 — 21

(8-1) 0 7 10 7 — 24

## TEAM STATISTICS

Northwest	Washburn
510	Total yards 275
86	Total plays 65
213	Rushing yards 88
52	Rushing attempts 28
2-0	Fumbles-lost 2-0
297	Passing yards 187
34	Passing attempts 37
0-0	Sacks-yards 1-9
22-34-0	Comp-Att-Int. 17-37-1
3-94	Punts-yards 6-257
5.9	Off. yards per play 4.2
26	First Downs 18
10-95	Penalties-yards 9-48
1-35	Int-yards 0-0
8 of 17	Third downs 3 of 13
1 of 3	Fourth Downs 2 of 4



NORTHWEST DEFENDER HOLLY Ramaeker attempts to move the ball past an Emporia State defender last Thursday. The Bearcats beat the Hornets 1-0 to improve the 'Cats' record to 8-17-2. The 'Cats have three games left this season with two at home next week.

## CROSS COUNTRY

### Tough conference prepares team for regionals

By Dustin Sander  
Assistant Sports Editor

The young Northwest cross country team got a look at the tough MIAA competition at its conference meet on Saturday.

Both the men's and women's teams placed eighth in the meet. Eighth place was good enough for both teams to advance to the regional meet in two weeks.

Of the 10 runners each team was allowed to use, the women's team only ran three upperclassmen and the men's team had five upperclassmen.

"They got a little nervous," assistant coach Tessa Koschel said. "It was such a strong competition, the front runners went out, and they pulled the rest of the field with them. A lot of people were running out of their comfort zone."

Sophomore Jessica Nichols didn't let the nerves and inexperience get to her. Nichols set a personal record in a six kilometer race at 24:27 and was the top finisher for the 'Cats, although she does admit the team's heads do get in the way of their performance.

"Go in strong and don't think about anything just run," Nichols said to improve her team. "We think too much, and we don't just run, that would make us better."

On the men's side, Northwest had two top 10 finishers, Trevor Johannish and Zach Layton. Layton also received the MIAA Freshman of the Year award after finishing 10th on Saturday.

Koschel said the tough conference also added to the nerves and took advantage of the young 'Cat runners.

"They need to run their own races, whether the field goes out fast or slow,"

Koschel said. "They need to know what they need to do and what they're capable of and give it their all."

The 'Cats will cut down to seven runners at the regional meet. Koschel said the top seven runners will compete in the meet, but nothing is set in stone, the coaches will evaluate runners in the days to come.

Northwest will face many of the same teams it saw last weekend plus many more from the Lonestar and Heartland conferences.

"With a bigger field it gives you more of a chance to run your race and not pay attention to everything else going on around you," Koschel said. "It gives you a chance to focus on yourself."

The 'Cats will travel Nov. 11 to San Antonio for the NCAA South Central Regional meet.

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# SPOOFHOUNDS

## JV SPOTLIGHT

### It's a winning tradition

By Christopher Woodland  
Community Sports Editor

Losing 20 seniors from one football team would generally be reason for concern, but not when your junior varsity and freshman teams lost one game combined this year.

Judging by the success of the junior varsity team the Spoofhounds should be good for some time to come. The 'Hounds J.V. went undefeated, while the freshmen only lost one game this year.

"It's definitely great knowing that we're going to have a team next year that we can watch carry on the Spoofhound tradition after we've graduated," senior defensive lineman Zach Sherry said.

For the J.V., Monday nights are a time for them to escape from roles on the scout team during practice, and showcase their talents.

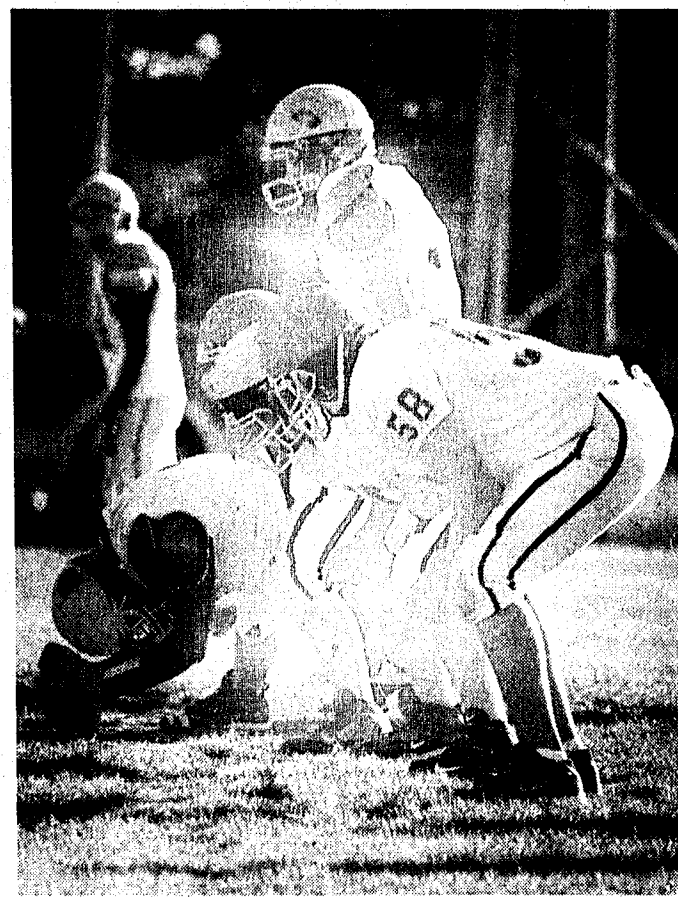
"In practice we always get beat on a lot by the upperclassmen, and on Mondays it's kind of our time to shine," sophomore quarterback Marcus Grudzinski said. "Knowing that next year we're going to be playing a lot of those guys on varsity (going undefeated) means a lot."

The weekly schedule of a J.V. player doesn't grant much time for recovery after a tough game. Regardless of how they perform on Mondays, they turn around and go right back to the scout team the next afternoon, where they must try to contain senior game-breakers John Farmer and Adam Mattson, and face punishing hits from defensive players like Sherry.

However, they understand that's just the way it goes in high school football.

"It's kind of hard, we don't get many breaks, Grudzinski said. "On Monday's when we're playing games they're watching and getting ready, so we're missing out on that, but it's just football."

They may miss out on the film sessions and game-plan aspect, but they gain an advantage in learning the overall scheme since every level from varsity down to seventh grade executes the same



MEMBERS OF THE JV punt scout team prepare to snap the ball in Tuesday's practice. Junior varsity football players continue to help the varsity even though their season is over.

offense and defense on game days. That makes teaching the players the required terminology, and throwing them into situations much easier.

"We're all teaching the same things all the way from middle school through the high school," Maryville head coach Chris Holt said. "We'll pull a freshman up and tell him to play strong guard or strong tackle, and he'll know what to do. It's really nice when you've got them coming in as freshmen and they already know what they're going to be doing."

With both the junior varsity and the freshmen football season over, their roles will be relegated to the scout team, and carrying out their role in the 'Hounds' quest for a state championship.

"We've just got to help out the varsity and make them better and pay attention to make us better when we get older," sophomore Gavin Talmadge said.

## FOOTBALL

### 'Hounds clinch playoffs, await LeBlond

By Christopher Woodland  
Community Sports Editor

With one week remaining in the regular season and a playoff berth secured, the Maryville Spoofhounds now play for a chance at a home game in the playoffs in a shortened week.

Last Friday, the 'Hounds fumbled seven times on their way to a 36-7 victory over South Harrison on a rain-soaked field in Bethany, Mo.

"Offensively we've put some good numbers, but at the same time we've had some shaky stuff," Maryville head coach Chris Holt said. "We're going to try to get rid of the shaky stuff."

The 'Hounds' defense smothered the opposing offense and held South Harrison to 55 yards of offense.

"(The defense) is really solid," senior fullback Wyatt Mauldin said. "They've got a lot of good people on defense, and they've been playing really good and shutting people out."

Three different touchdowns were either scored directly or set up by the 'Hounds' defense.

Early in the second quarter, senior running back Adam Mattson snagged a blocked punt while it was still in the air,

and returned it for the first touchdown of the contest.

Later, with just more than a minute left until half time, senior safety John Schreck intercepted a pass thrown by the Bulldogs' T.J. Heitz. Senior running back John Farmer scored on a 58-yard touchdown run three plays later.

The defense also set up the 'Hounds' final score.

"We got the 'W' so we're in the playoffs now," Holt said. "We just need to come out next Thursday take care of business, and get a win on Senior Night."

Following last week's sloppy victory, Holt wanted to come out sharp on Friday night.

"I think we just need to go into the playoffs with as much energy and positive success as we can," Holt said. "It's very important for us to come out and execute well early."

Maryville's defense has given up 14 points in the last 14 quarters, and held its last three opponents to 279 combined yards. The two scores allowed in that time



SEVERAL MEMBERS OF the Spoofhound defense work, South Harrison quarterback T.J. Heitz late in Friday's game. The defense smothered the Bulldogs allowing only 55 yards of total offense.

frame came while Maryville led Trenton 40-0, and South Harrison 36-0.

The LeBlond game comes a little sooner this week than normal.

The game starts at 7 p.m. tonight instead of the usual Friday time-slot, and has cramped preparation time.

With only one week left until the playoffs start, the 'Hounds are getting closer and closer to their main goal they set at the beginning of the season.

"We just have to keep pushing towards that one goal we all want to achieve," Mauldin said, "go to state."

## SOCCER

### Late surge gives young team another victory

By Taylor Flora  
Missourian Reporter

The young Spoofhound boys soccer team had to rely on yet another second half charge for their last game of their season.

The boys traveled to Cameron for their final regular season game. In the first half, the defense played well, only allowing senior goalie Christian Falcone to touch the ball three times, head coach Stuart Collins said. The offense put the pressure on the Dragons and had 23 shots in the first half, but only resulted in one goal.

"We came out flat and Cameron came to play," Collins simply said.

Up 1-0 at halftime the 'Hounds found their groove in the second-half and made key adjustments in the locker room.

The 'Hounds controlled the ball in the second half and kept it on the Dragons' side of the field. Senior Jon Rogers led the team once again with three goals. The 'Hounds' won 5-2 and improved their overall record to 14-8, going into the conference tournament.

"We were happy with how the season went, considering we lost a lot of seniors last year," junior John Morgan said. "We kept getting better and better as the season went along."

The 'Hounds' next opponent will be

the very familiar Bishop LeBlond. LeBlond will host the conference tournament.

"We need to play our game and how we like to play," Collins said.

The 'Hounds have played LeBlond twice this season and won both meetings, 2-0 and 6-1 respectively.

"We can't overlook LeBlond," Falcone said. "We still need to work on communication, finishing and teamwork as a whole."

The 'Hounds will play the Eagles at 4 p.m. Saturday at LeBlond.



## MIKE THOMSON

### 4th DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**Qualities**

- Has a common sense, collaborate approach
- Believes good representation means listening to constituents and following through
- Dedicated to moving Northwest Missouri forward

**Experience**

- Two years in Missouri House of Representatives
- Committee Service: Education Appropriations, Higher Education, Agriculture (Business), Workforce Development (Vice-Chair) and Policy Development
- Majority Floor Whip
- 38 years in education

## ENDORSEMENTS:

**Missouri Chamber**  
"After reviewing the qualifications and positions of the candidates in this race, we have concluded that you are the pro-employer and pro-jobs candidate that voters can enthusiastically support. Your stance shows that you would make a positive impact in Missouri's Legislature to maintain and improve the business climate in our state." - Daniel P. Mehan, Director

**National Federation of Independent Business**  
"NFIB is proud to endorse Mike Thomson because he has a clear understanding of the needs of small business owners. He has worked to protect their rights as well as fight to keep unnecessary regulations from adding to the burden of running a successful business." - Brad Jones, NFIB/Missouri state director

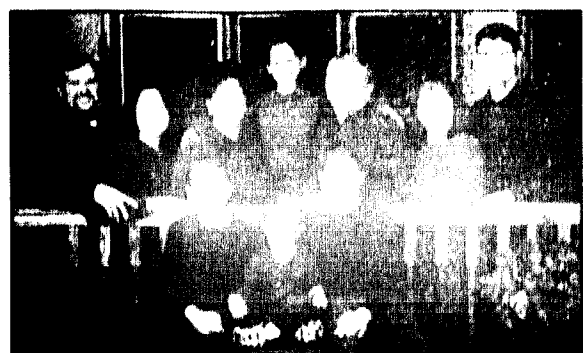
**Missouri State Teachers Association (MSTA)**  
"...we have concluded that you are a pro-education candidate that the voters can enthusiastically support. We believe that your record on critical issues demonstrates you are committed to quality education in Missouri." - Krista Meyer, MSTA Manager

**Missouri School Administrators Political Action Committee**  
"MSAPAC made the endorsement due to his strong support of public education." - Larry Ewing, President of MSAPAC

**Missouri United for Life**  
"...your witness to the sanctity of life is great and make a huge difference. You have been chosen for endorsement by MUL because of your commitment to life." - Ed Martin

"My goal is to continue to heighten awareness and find solutions for the important needs and issues confronting the people of the 4th District, both now and in the future. Northwest Missouri is my home and I will continue to strive to keep Northwest Missouri a great place to live and raise our families."

-Mike Thomson



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## NORTHWEST & MARYVILLE HIGH

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

### Myles Burnsidies



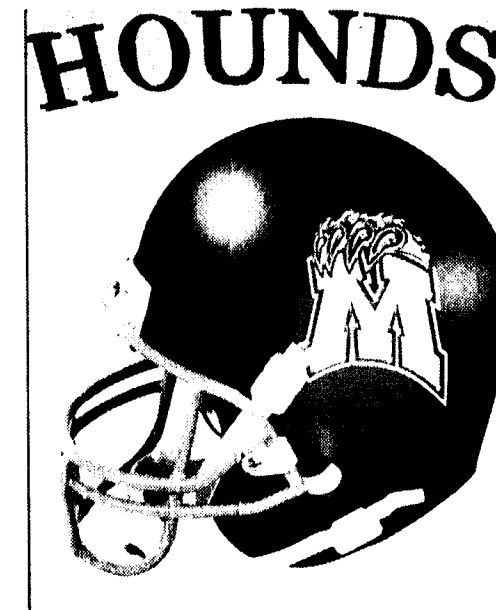
Burnsidies was named MIAA defensive player of the week for his efforts against Washburn, but he contributed on offense as well. Burnsidies had a 36-yard run on a fake punt to set up Northwest's first touchdown.

### Kira Lazenby



Lazenby racked up 26 saves in her last three games for the Bearcat soccer team. The goalie also extended her record for career shutouts with another against Emporia last Thursday. The 'Cats took that game 1-0.

### 'Hound Defense



The Spoofhound defense has owned it's last two games. Against South Harrison, Maryville allowed only 55 yards of offense. In their last 14 quarters, the 'Hounds have allowed a total of 14 points.

### Tracy Jensen



Jensen helped the Maryville volleyball team remain the only high school girls sport left playing. The 'Hounds were able to defeat North Platte and Lathrop to advance to the district championship match against LeBlond.

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## Virtual football plus quick thumbs equals fame

So I was flipping through the channels a couple days ago and came across the "Madden Nation" tournament on ESPN2.

You know, it's the nationwide tournament for the incredibly talented few who excel beyond belief in the world of "Madden NFL '09."

The people on this show are simply amazing. They have battled their way to the top. Probably beginning their surge to greatness in a living room or basement just like yours or mine, they have worked themselves into an elite level among American citizens.

Through hours of grueling button-pushing and bags of chips, they have overcome all sorts of adversity — adversity in the form of power outages, blisters on their lightning quick thumbs and probably future eye sight deficiencies due to staring



Christopher Woodard  
Community Sports Editor

at a television screen for hours on end.

The episode I watched was a lead-up to one of the final rounds of the tournament. I'm not sure which one; I didn't pay close enough attention. In a pre-game interview, one of the contestants said "It's getting down to the serious stuff now. If you're not nervous for this, you're not human."

I couldn't have said it better, buddy. If you aren't ready to do battle in a virtual football game, and base your identity off the results, there is something wrong with you.

You have to admire the passion with which they play the game. They treat every game as if they are Ray Lewis or Deion Sanders playing in the biggest game of their lives.

If you make a mistake, they will let you hear about it. If your running back fumbles, or their 98-speed defensive

back runs down your 87-speed full-back, it doesn't matter that you can't particularly control the fumbling or the speed of your players. It happened because they are simply better than you. They will get in your ear and talk trash, because gaming is just as much mental as ... well, I guess it's all mental, there's not much physical action at all.

The most physical movement that takes place is when one guy runs around the room after scoring a touchdown. Can you blame him though? It's like getting a triple word score in Scrabble.

Which brings me to a question: why aren't there nationally televised Scrabble tournaments? It's the same basic concept as the "Madden Nation" tournament. It's just a game that has little or no real affect on anything except a person's relationship with other gamers.

Seriously though, what goes on in these peoples' heads? Do they really

think that excelling at a video game will get them anywhere in life? Do they have anything at all going on in their lives, or are they simply basing their existence on how well they perform in a video game? A better question: what kind of women do these people end up with?

Think about it, what kind of woman is going to date a guy who plays video games for hours on end and brags about his "accomplishments" in a pretend world as if he had just won the Heisman Trophy, and whose main goal in life is to become the greatest "Madden NFL '09" gamer in the world?

Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe I'm out of touch here. Maybe I should drop out of school, work on my gaming abilities and let ESPN2 wine, women and dine me into rock-star status as my thumbs dance across my X-Box controller like Emmitt Smith danced across the stage on "Dancing with the Stars."

## WHAT TO WATCH

### Marc's TV picks

#### Saturday

•Emporia at Northwest, LIVE, 1 p.m. — I'm going to see some of my favorite seniors, Matt Nelson, Reid Kirby, Brant Gregg etc., in their last regular season home game. The good news is fans can leave at halftime because all the starters should be out by then.

Days rating (5 of 5)

#### Sunday

•Green Bay at Tennessee, FOX, noon — Hey, this Titans team looks pretty good. It seems they've found the formula. Great defense + solid running game - Vince Young = SUCCESS.

Days rating (3 of 5)

### Brian's TV picks

#### Saturday

•Nebraska at Oklahoma, ESPN, 7:15 p.m. — Today Nebraska shocks the world. Huskers have gotten progressively better throughout the season. Plus, I am going to Norman for the game and it would make the experience just a little bit better if we actually made it a game.

Days rating (5 of 5)

#### Sunday

•Super Troopers, Comedy Cent., 6 p.m. — "The Snozberries taste like Snozberries." "Bend over and touch your toes. I'm gonna show you where the wild goose goes." Way too many great lines in one movie to pass up.

Days rating (4 of 5)

### Woody's TV picks

#### Saturday

•Texas vs. Texas Tech, ABC, 7:15 p.m. — This is the fourth week in a row Texas will play a ranked opponent. The Red Raiders demolished Kansas last week, but Colt McCoy is a little tougher to stop than Todd Reesing.

Days rating (5 of 5)

#### Sunday

•Cowboys at Giants, FOX, noon — The G-men are rolling and the boys from Big D are reeling, but did manage to win last week. Will Brad Johnson get it done again this week? Or will T.O. cry again?

Days rating (3 of 5)

### Dustin's TV picks

#### Saturday

•Florida at Georgia, CBS, 2:30 p.m. — When two top 10 teams play each other there is no excuse to miss it. I'm hoping to see Tim Tebow suck up the field and end the game with no touchdowns on the ground or through the air, ending his repeat Heisman run.

Days ratings (3 of 5)

#### Saturday

•Tampa Bay at Kansas City, Fox, noon — The Chiefs may have only won one game this year, but I still love them. Plus, I want to see Tyler Thigpen tear it up again this week and maybe come out with a win.

Days rating (4 of 5)

## SPORTS STAFF GAME PICKS

### Marc's picks

#### Prediction record (20-15)

##### NCAA Lock

Temple at Navy — Navy I love the option attack. Not because it's good, it isn't good, I love it because it's old school. The Midshipmen can play.

##### NCAA Upset

Pittsburgh at Notre Dame — Pitt Notre Dame hasn't played anyone that I consider about junior varsity level. Maybe if they had that once great linebacker Christopher Woodland to inspire greatness in them, they could return to glory. But they can't.

##### NFL Lock

Miami at Denver — Denver It's not usually in my nature to pick a team that can't play any defense, but Denver is so good at Mile High, Invesco, Starbucks field, or whatever they call it. Miami's playing admirably, but that won't be enough.

##### NFL Upset

Houston at Minnesota — Houston The Minnesota offense is so one-sided. I think if they let Adrian Peterson play running back, quarterback and wide receiver, they can win.

### Brian "The Bulldog's" picks

#### Prediction record (16-20)

##### NCAA Lock

Air Force at Army — Air Force The spread in this game is way too close. Air Force has had a great season so far only bringing in two losses while Army enters the game with only three wins. Air Force doesn't pass much but they sure can run.

##### NCAA Upset

Texas at Texas Tech — Tech I have always hated Texas but for some reason I have been cheering for them on all year. Just have this feeling that Cralm and Crabtree will outscore Colt and the Horns. Tech's improved defense will need to stay tough to pull this one out.

##### NFL Lock

Arizona at St. Louis — Cards It's like 12:30 at night and the last thing I want to be doing is making picks right now. Knowing Dustin picked the Rams is good enough reason for me to pick the Cards.

##### NFL Upset

Jets at Buffalo — Jets Again against Dustin. The Giant is a huge Chief's fan. He already cursed the Buffs by talking bad about his own team. Jets win this one big, again.

### Woody's picks

#### Prediction record (17-19)

##### NCAA Lock

Northwestern at Minnesota — Minn With Suggs out, Northwestern will be without its best player. Even when the Golden Gophers only won one game last year they still managed to come within a point of beating the Wildcats.

##### NCAA Upset

Auburn at Mississippi — Auburn OK, Auburn has no offense at all, and Mississippi knocked off Florida. Auburn has lost three in a row. If Tommy Tuberville loses four in a row, I will make my picks next week by flipping a coin. I promise.

##### NFL Lock

Pittsburgh at Washington — Pitt The Steelers lost in a tough battle last week, and Big Ben tossed four picks. They will be out to right the ship this week.

##### NFL Upset

Packers at Titans — Pack The Titans have to lose some time. We've had several teams make it deep into the year unbeaten the past few years, I don't see it happening again.

### Dustin's picks

#### Prediction record (20-16)

##### NCAA Lock

Texas at Texas Tech — Texas The Longhorns have moved through three top 10 teams in the last three weeks. Now playing Tech will be no big deal for the horns.

##### NCAA Upset

West Virginia at UConn — UConn Connecticut is No. 25 in the nation and people seem to forget that UConn shared the Big East title with West Virginia. For some reason West Virginia is favored in this game but I'm taking the Huskies in this one.

##### NFL Lock

Jets at Buffalo — Buffalo The Jets had to score a touchdown in the last minute of the game against the Chiefs to pull out a win. They don't stand a chance in a good team's house. I don't think the Brett Favre experiment in New York is working and it's finally starting to show.

##### NFL Upset

Arizona at St. Louis — Rams It looks like the Rams might be turning it around with wins over the Redskins and Cowboys and close game in New England. They beat the Cards easy in St. Louis.

## STROLLER

## Your Man has a plume to pick with you, loyal readers

Due to the fact the Bearcat Marching Band helped Your Man break a Northwest Missourian online record, I felt obligated to respond to my loyal readers.

Yes, last week's Stroller about the band's unorthodox conduct received 76 comments on the Missourian's Web site. I believe one person even told me I made about 160 enemies.

Most of the people who commented on the Stroller said they would only read my column one more time, and that would be to hear my apology.

One of the comments I enjoyed the most was from someone who refers to himself as NWBandGeek: "If you were really paying attention to us you would realize we don't wear feathers on our hats. That was last year. Now we have tinsel plumes. Next time pay more attention to what you're criticizing."

That's what I am sorry for; I showed horrible journalistic skills when I didn't double-check that the BMB no longer wears feathers. They have moved on to tinsel plumes. Congratulations. There's your retraction.

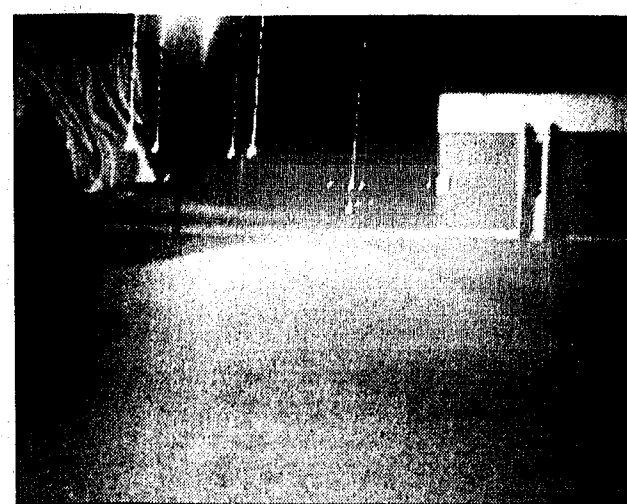
I think many of the people who commented on last week's Stroller didn't even read the column. Much of the hate mail I received was the band defending how great it makes the atmosphere at the football games.

I agree completely. The band does help get the crowd excited, and although I am not an athlete, as so many of my fans from the band pointed out, I'm sure the band helps the athletes get pumped up for games as well.

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The Stroller

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I don't agree with the students

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in the stands cussing out the opposing team any more than I agree with your non-funny, wish-I-were-cool comebacks. But a lot of those people in the crowd are probably intoxicated, and I hope that isn't an excuse the band can use.

Although many of the band members who commented on the article found it easy to call me a drunk, I will assure you I was at least half sober while writing the article. After reading all of your comments, though, I could have

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## REVIEW

## 'Saw V' falls into its own trap of unoriginality and redundancy

Brian Johnson  
Entertainment Reporter

Jigsaw is dead and so is the "Saw" series.

The latest installment of the gore-filled series has gone from an original piece of horror cinema to repetitive and minimal snuff films that have not only beaten the dead horse but also stabbed and gutted it.

At this point, the "Saw" series is becoming a joke. The first film was an innovative work that showed the horror world something they have never seen before. Now, it's become a corporate money-making machine studios put out every year.

The series is running out of ideas: I'm sorry, but if the main character is dead, why the need for more movies? Oh that's right, because the studios don't care about making quality movies as long as the paycheck based on box office receipts is nice and high.

No disrespect to Costas Mandylor ("Beowulf"), who plays the new antagonist. He is a fine actor, but even that is not enough to save this series that is, no pun intended, dead. It's like Mandylor is an excellent employee at a McDonald's, he does an awesome job, but at the end of the day, it's a horrible place to work.

The traps are no longer entertaining or original. Let's look at the two of them featured: a box around a man's head filled with

water, and a bathtub wired up with electricity. I thought the movie was called "Saw V" not "Household Accidents."

It's always hard to find good qualities in horror films. There have been examples throughout movie history though such as "The Shining" and "The Exorcist," but they all had great stories to follow and weren't filled with 30 minutes of flashback scenes like this film has.

I suppose they have to though considering Tobin Bell's character is dead but they still have to include him to give people a reason to show up.

I absolutely hate when characters talk to themselves. It's an insult to the viewer. The detective that is chasing Mandylor's character talks to himself throughout the entire movie. I guess you have to consider how dumb your audience is to turn out and pay money to see this piece

of crap.

I'm sure the audience hates having to come up with what the character is thinking on their own. God forbid they think during a movie.

"Saw V" is a letdown to fans of horror movies. The movies have gotten steadily worse throughout the years and are no longer relevant. It's gotten to the point where they have exhausted every character and storyline possible that it's hard to believe anyone cares how the next one is going to turn out.

The directors and writers of the films should move on and work on other projects instead of working on a series that's dead in the water. However, I guess that would be asking them to

walk away from a guaranteed high paycheck. Wait a minute, you mean to tell me movie directors only care about money instead of quality movies? Say it isn't so.



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Business management for 20 years with major corporations

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## Virtual football plus quick thumbs equals fame

So I was flipping through the channels a couple days ago and came across the "Madden Nation" tournament on ESPN2.

You know, it's the nationwide tournament for the incredibly talented few who excel beyond belief in the world of "Madden NFL '09."

The people on this show are simply amazing. They have battled their way to the top. Probably beginning their surge to greatness in a living room or basement just like yours or mine, they have worked themselves into an elite level among American citizens.

Through hours of grueling button-pushing and bags of chips, they have overcome all sorts of adversity — adversity in the forms of power outages, blisters on their lightning quick thumbs and probably future eye sight deficiencies due to staring



Christopher Woodard  
Community Sports Editor

at a television screen for hours on end.

The episode I watched was a lead-up to one of the final rounds of the tournament. I'm not sure which one; I didn't pay close enough attention. In a pre-game interview, one of the contestants said "It's getting down to the serious stuff now. If you're not nervous for this, you're not human."

I couldn't have said it better, buddy. If you aren't ready to do battle in a virtual football game, and base your identity off the results, there is something wrong with you.

You have to admire the passion with which they play the game. They treat every game, as if they are Ray Lewis or Deion Sanders playing in the biggest game of their lives.

If you make a mistake, they will let you hear about it. If your running back fumbles, or their 98-speed defensive

back runs down your 87-speed full-back, it doesn't matter that you can't particularly control the fumbling or the speed of your players. It happened because they are simply better than you. They will get in your ear and talk trash, because gaming is just as much mental as ... well, I guess it's all mental, there's not much physical action at all.

The most physical movement that takes place is when one guy runs around the room after scoring a touchdown. Can you blame him though? It's like getting a triple word score in Scrabble.

Which brings me to a question: why aren't there nationally televised Scrabble tournaments? It's the same basic concept as the "Madden Nation" tournament. It's just a game that has little or no real affect on anything except a person's relationship with other gamers.

Seriously though, what goes on in these peoples' heads? Do they really

think that excelling at a video game will get them anywhere in life? Do they have anything at all going on in their lives, or are they simply basing their existence on how well they perform in a video game? A better question: what kind of women do these people end up with?

Think about it, what kind of woman is going to date a guy who plays video games for hours on end and brags about his "accomplishments" in a pretend world as if he had just won the Heisman Trophy, and whose main goal in life is to become the greatest "Madden NFL '09" gamer in the world?

Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe I'm out of touch here. Maybe I should drop out of school, work on my gaming abilities and let ESPN2 wine, women and dine me into rock-star status as my thumbs dance across my X-Box controller like Emmitt Smith danced across the stage on "Dancing with the Stars."

## WHAT TO WATCH

### Marc's TV picks

#### Saturday

• Emporia at Northwest, LIVE, 1 p.m. — I'm going to see some of my favorite seniors, Matt Nelson, Reid Kirby, Brant Gregg etc., in their last regular season home game. The good news is fans can leave at halftime because all the starters should be out by then.

Days rating (5 of 5)

#### Sunday

• Green Bay at Tennessee, FOX, noon — Hey, this Titans team looks pretty good. It seems they've found the formula. Great defense + solid running game = Vince Young = SUCCESS.

Days rating (3 of 5)

### Brian's TV picks

#### Saturday

• Nebraska at Oklahoma, ESPN, 7:15 p.m. — Today Nebraska shocks the world. Huskers have gotten progressively better throughout the season. Plus, I am going to Norman for the game and it would make the experience just a little bit better if we actually made it a game.

Days rating (5 of 5)

#### Sunday

• Super Troopers, Comedy Cent., 6 p.m. — "The Snoozberries taste like Snoozberries." "Bend over and touch your toes. I'm gonna show you where the wild goose goes." Way too many great lines in one movie to pass up.

Days rating (4 of 5)

### Woody's TV picks

#### Saturday

• Texas vs. Texas Tech, ABC, 7:15 p.m. — This is the fourth week in a row Texas will play a ranked opponent. The Red Raiders demolished Kansas last week, but Colt McCoy is a little tougher to stop than Todd Reasing.

Days rating (5 of 5)

#### Sunday

• Cowboys at Giants, FOX, noon — The G-men are rolling and the boys from Big D are reeling, but did manage to win last week. Will Brad Johnson get it done again this week? Or will T.O. cry again?

Days rating (3 of 5)

### Dustin's TV picks

#### Saturday

• Florida at Georgia, CBS, 2:30 p.m. — When two top 10 teams play each other there is no excuse to miss it. I'm hoping to see Tim Tebow suck up the field and end the game with no touchdowns on the ground or through the air, ending his repeat Heisman run.

Days ratings (3 of 5)

#### Saturday

• Tampa Bay at Kansas City, Fox, noon — The Chiefs may have only won one game this year, but I still love them. Plus, I want to see Tyler Thigpen tear it up again this week and maybe come out with a win.

Days rating (4 of 5)

## SPORTS STAFF GAME PICKS

### Marc's picks

#### Prediction record (20-15)

##### NCAA Lock

Temple at Navy — Navy I love the option attack. Not because it's good, it isn't good, I love it because it's old school. The Midshipmen can play.

##### NCAA Upset

Pittsburgh at Notre Dame — Pitt Notre Dame hasn't played anyone that I consider about junior varsity level. Maybe if they had that once great linebacker Christopher Woodard to inspire greatness in them, they could return to glory. But they can't.

##### NFL Lock

Miami at Denver — Denver It's not usually in my nature to pick a team that can't play any defense, but Denver is so good at Mile High, Invesco, Starbucks field, or whatever they call it. Miami's playing admirably, but that won't be enough.

##### NFL Upset

Houston at Minnesota — Houston The Minnesota offense is so one-sided. I think if they let Adrian Peterson play running back, quarterback and wide receiver, they can win.

### Brian "The Bulldog's" picks

#### Prediction record (16-20)

##### NCAA Lock

Air Force at Army — Air Force The spread in this game is way too close. Air Force has had a great season so far only bringing in two losses while Army enters the game with only three wins. Air Force doesn't pass much but they sure can run.

##### NCAA Upset

Texas at Texas Tech — Tech I have always hated Texas but for some reason I have been cheering them on all year. I just have these feelings that Cramm and Crabtree will outscore Colt and the Horns. Tech's improved defense will need to stay tough to pull this one out.

##### NFL Lock

Arizona at St. Louis — Cards I like 12:30 at night and the last thing I want to be doing is making picks right now. Knowing Dustin picked the Rams is good enough reason for me to pick the Cards.

##### NFL Upset

Jets at Buffalo — Jets Again against Dustin. The Giant is a huge Chief's fan. He already cursed the Buffs by talking bad about his own team. Jets win this one big again.

### Woody's picks

#### Prediction record (17-19)

##### NCAA Lock

Northwestern at Minnesota — Minn With Suggs out, Northwestern will be without its best player. Even when the Golden Gophers only won one game last year they still managed to come within a point of beating the Wildcats.

##### NCAA Upset

Auburn at Mississippi — Auburn OK, Auburn has no offense at all, and Mississippi knocked off Florida. Auburn has lost three in a row. If Tommy Tuberville loses four in a row, I will make my picks next week by flipping a coin. I promise.

##### NFL Lock

Pittsburgh at Washington — Pitt The Steelers lost in a tough battle last week, and Big Ben tossed four picks. They will be out to right the ship this week.

##### NFL Upset

Packers at Titans — Pack The Titans have to lose some time. We've had several teams make it deep into the year unbeaten the past few years, I don't see it happening again.

### Dustin's picks

#### Prediction record (20-16)

##### NCAA Lock

Texas at Texas Tech — Texas The Longhorns have moved through three top 10 teams in the last three weeks. Now playing Tech will be no big deal for the horns.

##### NCAA Upset

West Virginia at UConn — UConn Connecticut is No. 25 in the nation and people seem to forget that UConn shared the Big East title with West Virginia. For some reason West Virginia is favored in this game but I'm taking the Huskies in this one.

##### NFL Lock

Jets at Buffalo — Buffalo The Jets had to score a touchdown in the last minute of the game against the Chiefs to pull out a win. They don't stand a chance in a good team's house. I don't think the Brett Favre experiment in New York is working and it's finally starting to show.

##### NFL Upset

Arizona at St. Louis — Rams It looks like the Rams might be turning it around with wins over the Redskins and Cowboys and close game in New England. They beat the Cards easy in St. Louis.

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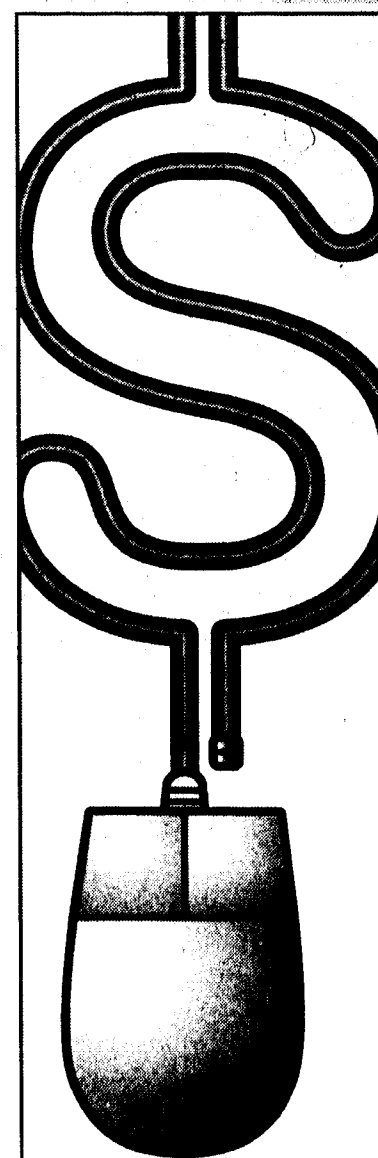
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# AT YOUR LEISURE

## STROLLER

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used a couple of drinks. I do have a challenge for the band, since you guys think you make the football games so much better and that is the reason why

so many fans prefer to attend the game. If the band makes the atmosphere so much more exciting, and I agree it does add a little something to the environment, why only football games? How come I never see the band at volleyball games? Teams like Northwest volleyball and soccer would love to have half the fan support the football team does and as many of you commented the band puts the fans in the stands.

So I say, good luck tooting your horns this weekend, and remember, be nice because I'm watching. Oh, and for those of you who questioned my athletic ability, I'll have you all know I was the co-captain of the varsity bowling team in high school. What now?

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During my time campaigning, several citizens have discussed with me the commitment and time it takes to run for sheriff. It is this same commitment and work ethic I will bring to the office as Nodaway County Sheriff.

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In review, the policies and procedures I intend to instill in our sheriff's department are simple:

- Be accountable to ALL the people ALL the time and respond to ALL calls.
- Combat the ever increasing drug problem in Nodaway County.
- Implement county-wide D.A.R.E. and Net Smart programs and provide a positive presence in county schools.
- Establish a Nodaway County Sheriff's Department web site to be more accessible to the citizens of Nodaway County.
- Work with other agencies to establish a consolidated county wide 911 system.
- Work to gain access to grants and other money available to the department for training and equipment.
- Effectively manage the staff and money allocated to the department to better serve all citizens of the county.

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